

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected Claims 1 – 23 as being either anticipated by Rittman et al. or Mordan et al. or obvious over Rittman et al. in view of Mordan et al. or Goble et al.. Applicant has canceled Claims 1 -23.

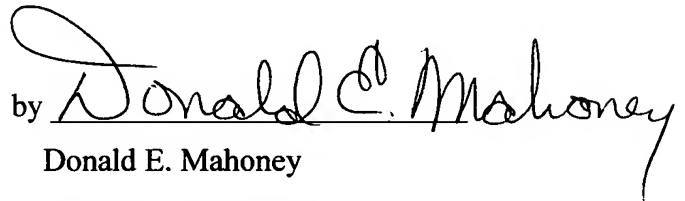
The prior art cited by the Examiner discloses a single source of energy such as the RF power oscillator described in Goble et al. or the RF power supply in FIG.2 of Rittman et al. or the laser energy source of Mordan et al. Nothing in the cited prior art disclose “a plurality of energy sources operating in combination to generate a plurality of energy pulses” as claimed in new Claim 24, or “combining a plurality of energy sources ...” as claimed in new Claim 33. Applicant discloses a plurality of energy sources in FIG. 2. In the specification page 8, lines 6,7, Applicant states that “The energy pulses may be generated by one or more sources operating separately or in combination.”

In addition, the cited prior art disclose various devices for heating and cooling target tissue in direct contact with such devices. For example, in Rittman et al. “... the temperature of the electrode tip (heat device) is controlled by incorporating a mechanism to cool the tip so as to reduce the excessive temperatures of the ablation process adjacent to the tip (column 2, lines 38 – 42, emphasis added). Goble et al., discloses a bladder 18 inflated with a conductive fluid 42 to a pressure sufficient to ensure firm contact with the endometrial tissue layer 44 on the interior uterine surface 46. The conductive fluid is then heated to a desired temperature for thermal treatment of tissue in contact with the bladder 18. “ If monitored temperature (of the fluid) is above a desired range, power is reduced to allow the fluid to cool” (column5, lines 16-17). In Mordon et al., laser energy is transmitted to the point of the tissue to be treated. Temperature of the target tissue is detected by a sensor 74 and transmitted to control unit 30. FIG. 5 is a graph showing how the temperature of the tissues varies as a result of each (laser) pulse. (column 5, lines 64-66)

Unlike the cited prior art describing cooling and heating of target tissue adjacent to heating devices, new Claim 24 is limited to “means for cooling blood flow through said target tissue” and new Claim 33 is limited to “cooling blood flow through said target tissue” as stated in the specification page 8, lines 19-20.

Applicant respectfully submits that new Claims 24-33 are in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the rejection is requested.

Respectfully submitted

by 

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